

27th March 1961]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to the starred question No. 1091 asked by Sri S. M. Annamalai at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 27th March 1961, page 125 supra.]

A.—Clause (a)—The average overall sectors is Rs. 304.79 for the year 1958–59.

Clause (b)—Rs. 178.25 in agriculture and Rs. 115.39 in Handloom Industry for the year 1958–59.

Clause (c)—The differences in income are not the result of any differential treatment of these industries by Government. They are inherent in the very nature of these occupations. However, the Government have taken various measures to increase the income of the workers in the Handloom Industry:

The most important of them are—

(i) Provision of working capital loan to Weavers' Co-operative Societies.

(ii) Supply of improved tools and appliances to the members of the Weavers' Co-operatives at part cost.

(iii) Expansion of the sales organization of the Madras State Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society by opening large number of sales depots within and outside the State.

(iv) Institution of a campaign of sales promotion by a series of publicity measures aimed at popularising the handloom cloth.

(v) Sanction of rebate on sales of handloom cloth with a view to give an impetus to the sales of handloom cloth and to reduce the differences in the price of mill cloth and handloom cloth; and

(vi) Formation of housing colonies for the benefit of the members of the Weavers' Co-operatives.

The measures taken by the Government to increase the income of the agriculturists are—

1 Use of better strains;

2 Liberal use of manures and fertilizers;

3 Adoption of pest-control methods;

4 Other intensive measures of cultivation;

5 Better marketing through regulated markets and grading service; and

6 Use of improved machineries such as tractors, pumpsets and implements.

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a.m.

All these items have been included in the programme for the Third Five-Year Plan. Besides the above, agriculturists are also given facilities to take to auxiliary occupation like Poultry Keeping, Bee Keeping and Dairying, etc., to augment their income to a certain extent which will help them to wipe off their debts.